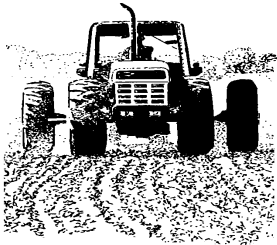




TENNESSEE WEEKLY
WEATHER AND CROP BULLETIN



Released Weekly April - November

2002 Weather Crop 20

Issued 3:00 P.M. 08/12/02

Week Ending August 11, 2002

DRY CONDITIONS PERSIST ACROSS TENNESSEE

Farmers across Tennessee continued to watch both crops and pastures deteriorate as soil moisture declined to critical levels in many areas. Crop conditions again declined, but the majority were still rated in the fair-to-good range. The State’s corn crop was maturing rapidly with one-fifth of the acreage having already reached maturity. This year’s crop development is slightly ahead of last year’s swift pace and 4 days ahead of the 5-year average. Tobacco harvest was underway in many locations with reported yields being highly variable. Some of the fields suffering from drought and disease were harvested early in order to salvage as much of the crop as possible. Poor pasture conditions and low pond levels have forced many cattle producers to provide hay and carry water to their animals. In addition, the dry pastures have left producers less optimistic about a good fall cutting of hay. Most of the State received little or no rain last week, allowing 7 days suitable for fieldwork. Farmers were also busy topping tobacco, spraying cotton, and harvesting corn silage. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 29 percent very short, 48 percent short, and 23 percent adequate. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 30 percent very short, 44 percent short, and 26 percent adequate.

CROP PROGRESS: Through August 11, 2002					CONDITION: On August 9, 2002					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2001	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Exc
Percent					Percent					
Corn - Dough	94	83	92	87	Corn	10	15	33	37	5
Corn - Dent	78	55	72	56	Soybeans	9	12	33	40	6
Corn - Mature	20	10	20	13	Cotton	2	11	25	44	18
Corn - Silage - Harvested	34	15	27	22	Tobacco	7	15	29	41	8
Soybeans - Blooming	93	85	87	75	Pastures	18	29	34	17	2
Soybeans - Setting Pods	71	57	64	49						
Cotton - Setting Bolls	92	85	99	98						
Cotton - Bolls Opening	2	N/A	5	2						
Tobacco - Topped	57	47	73	66						
Tobacco - Burley - Harvested	9	4	14	13						
Tobacco - Air-Cured - Harv.	9	1	14	12						
Tobacco - Fire-Cured - Harv.	9	4	23	14						

CORN: With the crop drying down rapidly, silage producers were busy with harvest. Currently, 34 percent of the acreage used as silage has been harvested, nearly a week ahead of the 5-year average. Grain harvest should begin within the next week or two.

COTTON: The crop was rated in mostly good condition. Two percent of the acreage had opened bolls, on pace with the 5-year average. This is significant because the cotton crop has trailed the normal development pace for the majority of the growing season.

SOYBEANS: The State’s soybeans are in serious need of moisture in most areas, not only for growth but also for pods to fill properly. As of Friday, the crop was rated in mostly fair-to-good condition.

TOBACCO: Growers were busy topping and harvesting their crop last week, albeit at a pace slower than normal. In many areas, dry weather has hurt the crop’s potential to put on additional weight after topping.

PASTURES & HAY: Forty-seven percent of pasture land was rated in the poor to very poor range compared with 32 percent the previous week. Due to poor pastures and low pond levels, some cattle producers were feeding hay and taking water to their animals.

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION For week ending: 08/12/02 (with comparisons)										
LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F	
	Week Ending 08/12/02				Current Week	Rain	Current	From	Since April 1	
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN	08/12/02	Days	Since January 1	Normal	Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	97	62	80	+2	0.38	1	33.09	-0.31	1863	+204
Bristol	95	53	75	+0	0.00	0	21.19	-5.39	1414	+301
Brownsville_TN	99	63	81	+2	0.10	1	26.39	-7.05	1965	+509
Chattanooga	97	64	81	+4	0.00	0	26.47	-7.62	1925	+384
Clarksville_Sew	100	60	80	+2	0.02	1	31.68	-0.20	1854	+388
Cookeville	96	56	76	+0	0.00	0	36.17	-0.06	1437	+531
Covington	96	62	80	+2	0.00	0	34.01	+1.22	1797	+104
Crossville_AP	89	52	72	-2	0.00	0	38.22	+2.45	1081	+46
Dickson_AG	97	58	77	-1	0.00	0	32.16	-2.00	1516	-20
Dover_1W	98	58	79	+2	0.05	1	34.98	+1.83	1658	+365
Dyersburg	97	63	80	-1	0.02	1	25.32	-6.48	1886	+83
Erwin_1W	95	53	74	+3	0.00	0	25.08	-7.07	1308	-26
Huntingdon_Wate	97	60	79	+2	0.07	1	29.70	-3.60	1791	+405
Jackson_AG	98	60	81	+3	0.09	1	28.49	-4.74	1880	+274
Kingston_AG	96	60	78	+4	0.00	0	35.26	-2.27	1604	+408
Knoxville_AP	94	62	78	+3	0.00	0	35.88	+4.82	1727	+394
Lewisburg	96	54	76	-1	0.00	0	37.64	+2.37	1537	+185
Lexington_TN	97	61	79	+2	0.09	1	34.21	+1.78	1755	+781
Linden	96	58	77	+1	0.51	2	33.65	-1.85	1603	+241
Martin	98	58	79	+2	0.04	1	30.91	-2.70	1821	+276
Mc_Minnville_Tn	95	60	79	+3	0.00	0	31.96	-2.30	1684	-30
Memphis_AG	97	65	81	-2	2.53	2	41.46	+8.96	1924	-82
Milan	99	56	79	+2	0.00	0	25.87	-8.31	1815	+306
Murfreesboro_5N	97	58	78	+1	0.00	0	31.33	-2.38	1636	-62
Nashville	97	62	80	+2	0.00	0	30.64	+0.36	1807	+202
Newcomb	95	52	73	+1	0.00	0	31.80	-3.26	1351	+381
Oneida	94	55	75	+3	0.00	0	32.17	-2.89	1350	-86
Pikeville	96	59	78	+2	0.00	0	34.63	+0.47	1623	+302
Portland_TN	97	60	78	+2	0.00	0	31.49	-1.47	1581	+263
Pulaski_Water_P	96	62	78	-1	0.00	0	37.62	+2.67	1605	-8
Savannah_6SW	97	59	79	-2	0.00	0	42.08	+5.84	1786	+381
Sparta_TN	97	57	77	+2	0.00	0	35.72	+0.49	1614	+477
Springfield	99	52	76	-1	0.04	1	30.80	-0.93	1461	+126
Springhill	99	60	79	+2	0.17	2	31.41	-3.85	1720	+373
Union_City	97	58	78	+0	1.17	1	27.41	-5.27	1716	+207
DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days. Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. Copyright 2002: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved										

The Tennessee Agricultural Statistics Service gratefully acknowledges contributions to this publication by:
 National Weather Service, and the University of Tennessee’s Extension Service.